

Message Text

SECRET

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70

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 OES-03 AEC-05

CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01

PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

TRSE-00 RSC-01 NSC-05 BIB-01 FEA-01 AF-06 ARA-06

NEA-09 DODE-00 /119 W

----- 054355

R 0271830Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9219

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USNATO

S E C R E T ROME 1195

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, IT

SUBJECT: ITALIAN RATIFICATION OF NPT

REF: (A) ROME 1115, (B) STATE 018156; (C) ROME 1119; (D) STATE 14577

1. AMBASSADOR REVIEWED THIS MORNING (JAN 27) FOR SECRETARY
GENERAL GAJA, ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY, THE US POSITION ON
RATIFICATION OF THE NPT. AMBASSADOR PARTICULARLY STRESSED THE
IMPORTANCE OF AVOIDING RESERVATIONS IN RATIFICATION, PARTICULARLY
FORMAL RESERVATIONS OF PNE'S. AMBASSADOR ALSO TOOK OCCASION
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TO INQUIRE AS TO STATUS OF SAFEGUARDS RATIFICATION PROCEDURE.

2. GAJA SAID THAT RATIFICATION OF THE SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT COULD OCCUR ANY DAY AND THAT SUBMISSION OF NPT TO THE PARLIMENT WOULD THEN BE PROMPT. GAJA NOTED THAT THERE IS A HUGE MAJORITY IN PARLIAMENT IN FAVOR OF THE NPT AND IT COULD BE RATIFIED IN VERY SHORT ORDER. GAJA SAID THAT IN FACT IT WOULD BE PERHAPS UNWISE TO PRESENT THE NPT TO PARLIAMENT BEFORE RATIFICATION OF THE SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT IS COMPLETE. ALTHOUGH UNLIKELY, IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR RATIFICATION OF THE NPT TO TAKE PLACE PROMPTLY, BEFORE RATIFICATION IS COMPLETED ON THE SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT. GAJA FELT IT WOULD BE EMBARRASSING TO HAVE RATIFIED THE NPT WHILE RATIFICATION OF THE SAFEGUARDS-- THE MORE IMPORTANT OF THE TWO -- IS STILL PENDING. NEVERTHELESS, HE EXPECTS THE RATIFICATION OF THE ONE AND THE PRESENTATION TO PARLIAMENT OF THE OTHER WILL TAKE PLACE SHORTLY AND MAY POSSIBLY BE COMPLETED BEFORE THE REVIEW CONFERENCE OPENS ON MAY 5, UNLESS PARLIAMENT IS PARALYZED BY NEO-FASCIST FILIBUSTERING WITH REGARD TO THE IMPORTANT AND CONTROVERSIAL LEGISLATION TO REFORM THE STATE RADIO AND TELEVISION MONOPOLY (RAI-TV).

3. WITH REGARD TO POSSIBLE RESERVATIONS GAJA SAID THAT HE DID NOT EXPECT ANY NEW RESERVATIONS TO BE PROPOSED. HOWEVER, THE RESERVATIONS WHICH WERE NOTIFIED TO THE US, THE UK, AND USSR AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS, AT THE TIME ITALY ADHERED TO THE NPT IN 1969, ARE STILL PERTINENT AND GAJA SAID IT WOULD BE STRANGE TO DROP ALL OR PART OF THESE RESERVATIONS WITHOUT GOOD REASONS. AT THE SAME TIME, GAJA STRESSED THAT THERE WAS NO CHANCE OF ANY AMENDING ACTION BEING TAKEN BY THE PARLIAMENT. THE ITALIAN RESERVATIONS IN 1969 WHICH HE BELIEVES WILL BE REITERATED, WHEN THE NPT IS RATIFIED, ARE MERELY INTERPRETATIONS WHICH DID NOT PROVOKE ANY REACTION AT THE TIME THEY WERE RATIFIED TO THE OTHER POWERS ADHERING TO THE NPT.

4. COMMENT: REF (A) PARA 5 QUOTES THAT PARAGRAPH (NO. 8 IN THE ITALIAN NOTE OF THE RESERVATIONS), WHICH STATES THAT AT SUCH TIME AS TECHNOLOGY PERMITS THE DEVELOPMENT OF PEACEFUL EXPLOSIVE DEVICES (WHICH CAN BE) DIFFERENTIATED FROM NUCLEAR WEAPONS, THE PROHIBITION ON THEIR (PNE) USE WILL NO LONGER APPLY. EMBASSY RECORDS FOR THE PERIOD HAVING BEEN DESTROYED, WE CANNOT CONFIRM GAJA'S STATEMENT THAT THESE RESERVATIONS DID NOT
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STIMULATE ANY REACTION AT THE TIME ITALY SIGNED THE NPT. VOLPE

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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05 JUL 2006

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